



MODUAL: GOD

COURSE: HOW God Speaks

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GOD'S STILL SMALL VOICE

God's communication is custom designed for us and for our needs. He speaks to us for many different reasons and in many ways. He has words of warning, healing, deliverance, encouragement, guidance and above all – words of love. Sometimes these are almost audible, while at other times they are a mere “knowing” or “sensing”

Believing God speaks to you, is the first step toward hearing Him.

Opening your heart and mind to God, while seeking His guidance and wisdom, will not disappoint.

Listening and meditating on God's Word(written and spoken)takes time, but in the end it will produce a blessing.

Let me share an example of this process.

While watching the 2012 Olympics, I felt the Lord wanted me to see something through His eyes. This feeling kept coming back to me throughout the whole two weeks of the competitions. Certain events and information seemed to be highlighted, and I sensed God pointing out certain things about the athletes. I even journaled some of the things I noticed. The Olympics ended, and I still didn't have a clear understanding of what God was saying. However, I also knew that Holy Spirit would finish what He began.

Over the next few months God kept reminding me to revisit what I had observed. Suddenly, one day, all the puzzle pieces fell into place. I don't remember what brought it about, but instantly I understood God's revelation.

I finally recognized the common denominator - the mental battles all these athletes had to overcome in order to continue seeing themselves not only as Olympians, but as Gold Medal Olympians.

Michael Phelps probably had some mind battles after he came in 8th, and last, in a qualifying heat. I remember hearing this result and wondering if his time had passed. Was he too old? Had he been away for too long?

No, none of these proved true. Whatever he did, Phelps successfully fought all mental attacks and came in first place in the following race.

I remember hearing that Gabby Douglas, who eventually won two gold medals, almost quit a few months before the Olympics. I can't imagine the mental battles she must have fought.

Andrea Corn, a Florida sports psychologist and co-author of “Raising Your Game,” said gymnast Gabby Douglas' perseverance and ability to bounce back after disappointment played a big part in her success¹.

Why was God showing me this?

As I meditated on these Olympians, I saw how their perseverance and the outside encouragement they received from family, coaches, and teammates lead to their mental victories. These then became steppingstones to physical perseverance and eventually to physical victories at the Olympics.

We all face our own mind battles of discouragement and doubt in various areas of our lives. We can doubt our ability to succeed in school or on the job. We may encounter difficulties in relationships, in our marriage and even in our ministry. How we respond to these challenges determines our victory or our defeat.

Approaching these difficulties with God and his guidance enables us to experience our own supernatural victories.

God is always “on the job” in our lives. He knows where we are and what's ahead of us. He's never caught by surprise. In my case, the Lord saw a test coming my way. He knew I needed preparation if I was to experience victory. I had to learn something. I had to learn to persevere in his strength and his ways; anchoring my emotions in what He says about me instead of what someone else says.

Because God cares for me, he prepared me by opening my eyes to see the revelation I needed in order to experience victory. This happens frequently when we walk hand in hand with Jesus.

God is not limited by our traditions, preconceived ideas, or hectic lifestyles. He'll speak to us when we're watching TV, or praying in church. He'll speak to us anytime, anywhere.

I can't imagine doing life on my own. Without the help of His still small voice where would I be?

For personal Response

- How about you?
- Are you doing life on your own?
- Do you need to hear, and pay attention to His still small voice?
- In what areas do you need help and / or God's guidance?

I pray this lesson helps you develop an intimate relationship with your Creator, Savior and Friend.

¹Neporent, Liz. "Olympian Gabby Douglas Homeless, Bullied Before Winning Gold." ABC News. ABC News Network, 13 Dec. 2012. Web. 27 Jan. 2015.

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